

REMARKS

Applicant expresses appreciation to the Examiner for consideration of the subject patent application. This amendment is in response to the Office Action mailed April 1, 2005. Claims 1-16, 22, and 23 were rejected. The claims have been amended to address the concerns raised by the Examiner.

Claims 1-21 were originally presented. Claims 17-21 were previously canceled. Claims 22 and 23 were previously presented. Claims 1-6, 8-15, and 23-25 remain in the application. Claims 7 and 16 have been canceled without prejudice. Claims 1, 10, 11, 13, and 14 have been amended. Claims 24 and 25 have been added. Support for the amendments in claims 1, 10, 11, 13, and 14 and new claims 24 and 25 can be found in the specification on page 1, lines 12-19 and page 3, lines 30-34.

It should be noted that the claims, as amended, support multiple types of game playing associated with a handheld computer coupled to lighted display strips. The invention is not limited to games coupled to clothing.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-16 (including independent claims 1 and 10) were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Carter, III et al., US 4,695,058 (hereinafter "Carter").

In order to most succinctly explain why the claims presented herein are allowable, Applicant will direct the following remarks primarily to the originally presented independent claims 1 and 10, as amended, with the understanding that once an independent claim is allowable, all claims depending therefrom are allowable.

Claim 1, as amended, claims a hand-held microprocessor coupled to the display strip(s). Claim 1 further claims that game instructions are stored in the hand-held microprocessor, which executes the game instructions for the game to provide output signals to the display strip. Images associated with the games can be transmitted to and displayed on the display strips. The hand-held microprocessor can be a personal digital assistant, as claimed in claim 24.

In contrast, Carter does not disclose the concept of using a hand-held microprocessor, such as a personal digital assistant, to store or execute games which are displayed as images on

the display strips. Rather, Carter discloses an amusement shooting game for play by a plurality of players. (See Carter, Abstract). Electronics unique to the amusement shooting game are incorporated within a vest, a helmet, and a gun. (See Col. 2, 41-50, and FIGs. 2-10).

The present invention provides a distinct advantage over the prior art disclosed in Carter. Using a generic hand-held computing device allows a variety of different types of games to be played. For example, FIGS. 2-5 of the present application show a few possible embodiments of games which can be coupled to and executed by the hand-held microprocessor. Further, enabling the games to be stored and executed on a hand-held microprocessor allows the variety of games to be produced at a much lower cost than the amusement shooting game disclosed in Carter. This enables the public to purchase a variety of games without having to purchase the game processor each time.

The same arguments for claims 1 and 24 apply to independent claim 10 and dependent claim 25. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1 and 10 are allowable, and urges the Examiner to withdraw the rejection.

Rejection of the dependent claims 2-6, and 8-15 should be reconsidered and withdrawn for at least the reasons given above with respect to the independent claim. The dependent claims, being narrower in scope, are allowable for at least the reasons for which the independent claim is allowable.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 22 and 23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Carter in view of Davila, U.S. Patent No. 4,602,191 (hereinafter “Davila”).

Claims 22 and 23 claim flexible display strips capable of displaying images comprised of alphanumeric characters.

Davila discloses a flexible printed circuit board with a set display of LEDs. The LEDs are positioned in a desired pattern. For example, FIG. 1 shows a jacket with LEDs positioned to form an X and an O. FIG. 3 shows a display with the LEDs positioned to form the word “XAVIER.”

There is no motivation to combine the displays of Davila and the amusement shooting game of Carter. The Davila reference discloses the concept of using the display for advertising. Davila makes no mention of using the strips for a gaming purpose. Similarly, there is nothing in Carter which would motivate one skilled in the art to combine the amusement shooting game of Carter with the display in Davila. Indeed, Davila and Carter were both filed over 19 years ago. Since that time, nobody has thought to combine the two disclosures. Therefore, it would not be obvious to one skilled in the art to combine the two disclosures.

Further, claims 22 and 23 are dependent on independent claim 10. Rejection of the dependent claims 22 and 23 should be reconsidered and withdrawn for at least the reasons given above with respect to the independent claims. The dependent claims, being narrower in scope, are allowable for at least the reasons for which the independent claims are allowable.

Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 22 and 23 are allowable, and urges the Examiner to withdraw the rejection.

CONCLUSION

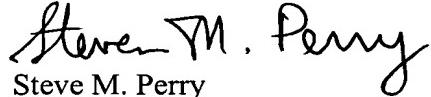
In light of the above, Applicant respectfully submits that pending claims 1-6, 8-15, and 22-25 are now in condition for allowance. Therefore, Applicant requests that the rejections and objections be withdrawn, and that the claims be allowed and passed to issue. If any impediment to the allowance of these claims remains after entry of this Amendment, the Examiner is strongly encouraged to call Steve M. Perry at (801) 566-6633 so that such matters may be resolved as expeditiously as possible.

Two dependent claims were added (claims 24 and 25), with no new independent claims, while two dependent claims were canceled (claims 7 and 16). Therefore, no additional fee is due.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee or to credit any overpayment in connection with this Amendment to Deposit Account No. 08-2025.

DATED this 22nd day of June, 2005.

Respectfully submitted,


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